

Application No. 10/573,647  
Reply to Office Action of August 17, 2009

IN THE DRAWINGS

The attached sheet of drawing includes the cancellation of Figure 14.

Attachment: 1 Annotated Sheet

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application in light of the present amendment in the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-4, 7-15, and 18-20 are presently pending in this case. Claims 1, 7-12, and 18 are amended, new Claims 19 and 20 are added, and Claims 6 and 17 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer by the present amendment. As amended Claims 1, 7-12, and 18 and new Claims 19 and 20 are supported by the original claims, no new matter is added.

In the outstanding Official Action, Claim 18 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph; Claims 1-4, 6-15, 17, and 18 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph; and Claims 1-4, 7-15, and 18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Suzuki (Japanese Patent Application Publication No. 2003067289) in view of Fujii (Japanese Patent Application Publication No. 2003-242018). However, Claims 6 and 17 were indicated as including allowable subject matter if rewritten to overcome the rejection of 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Applicant acknowledges with appreciation the indication that Claims 6 and 17 include allowable subject matter.

Submitted herewith is a separate Letter Submitting Annotated Drawing Sheet(s), for approval of the deletion of Figure 14. Figure 14 is being removed herewith.

With regard to the rejection of Claim 18 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, Claim 18 is amended to recite a single receiver. Accordingly, Claim 18 is in compliance with all requirements under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph.

With regard to the rejection of Claims 1-4, 6-15, 17, and 18 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, Claims 1-4, 6-15, 17, and 18 are amended to provide antecedent basis for

all terms. Accordingly, Claims 1-4, 6-15, 17, and 18 are in compliance with all requirements under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph.

With regard to the allegation that Claims 1-4, 6, and 7 are supported by the description, it is respectfully noted that Figure 1 and paragraphs 26-35 of the publication of the specification clearly describe the claimed subject matter. Further, Figure 4 and paragraphs 53-66 of the publication of the specification describe a particular embodiment of the invention shown in Figure 1. In particular, communication processing section 22 and network interface 23 transmit and receive information from a network 30, hard drive 21 stores information, and CPU 11 controls the communication processing section 22 and network interface 23 as described in particular in paragraphs 63-65 of the publication of the specification. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the present specification expressly recites structure which performs the claimed functions. Therefore, Claims 1-4, 6, and 7 are in compliance with all requirements under 35 U.S.C. §112, sixth paragraph.

With regard to rejection of Claims 1-4, 7-15, and 18 as unpatentable over Suzuki in view of Fujii, Claims 1, 7-12, and 18 are amended to include the subject matter of Claims 6 and 17. Claims 6 and 17 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. As Claims 6 and 17 were indicated as including allowable subject matter, Claims 1, 7-12, and 18 (and all claims dependent therefrom) are allowable.

Finally, new Claims 19 and 20 are supported at least by original Claims 5 and 16. As new Claims 19 and 20 are dependent from Claims 1 and 12, which are allowable as noted above, new Claims 19 and 20 are also allowable.

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Accordingly, the pending claims are believed to be in condition for formal allowance.

An early and favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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